(916) 263-2195

**CONTACT: Armando Garcia, Executive Officer** 



## CALIFORNIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION



Offices: 1424 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 33, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825-3217 (916) 263-2195 FAX (916) 263-2197 5757 W. CENTURY BLVD., GF-16, LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 (310) 641-8668 FAX (310) 641-8516

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 25, 2006

## COMMISSION SUSPENDS MMA ATHLETE MIKE KYLE INDEFINITELY

**SACRAMENTO** – California Athletic Commission Executive Officer Armando Garcia has indefinitely suspended Mike Kyle for his actions in a non-Commission sanctioned event that took place Friday May 5, 2006, at the Palace Indian Gaming Center in Lemoore.

In that competition, Kyle was observed kicking his opponent, Brian Olsen, in the face while Olsen was down, and continued to do so, even while Olsen was apparently unconscious, and despite commands from the referee and intervention from outside officials to stop.

"This behavior from a professional fighter is absolutely unacceptable," said Garcia. "Although Mr. Kyle told me today that he was sorry for his actions, I have absolutely no other choice but to suspend him indefinitely. His actions were abhorrent and a disgrace."

Mr. Olsen may have suffered career-ending injuries as a result of the blows.

Although the Commission did not supervise the event, Mr. Kyle is a licensee. Title IV of the California Code of Regulations, Article 11, Section 390, states that any licensee who "...violates ... the rules of the Athletic Commission ... or who conducts himself or herself at any time or place in a manner which is deemed by the commission to reflect discredit to boxing, may have his or her license revoked, or may be fined, suspended or otherwise disciplined in such manner as the commission may direct."

Even though the regulation refers to boxers, recently passed regulations apply this rule to mixed martial arts athletes as well.

"If you are a licensee, you must comport yourself professionally at all times or risk losing your license." said Garcia.